GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:486
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2003
SALE OF UNUSED RAILWAY LAND
PRABODH PANDA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have made plans to increase revenue by selling unused railway lands and properties;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the revenue collected by the Railways by selling of lands during each of the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.486 BY SHRI PRABODH PANDA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.04.2003 REGARDING SALE OF UNUSED RAILWAY LAND

(a) to (c): Railways neither has nor had any plan for selling its unused land and properties to increase revenue. However to increase revenue, the vacant land, if not required for immediate operational and maintenance purposes, is utilised for following purposes:

(i) licensing of railway land in and near station yards (known as commercial plots) for stacking/storing of goods moved by rail. Such licensing also helps Railways in attracting/retaining traffic.

(ii) bulk oil installations and private sidings which offer substantial traffic to the Railways.

(iii) Leasing of land to other Central Govt. Deptts./ State Govts./ Public Sector Undertaking on a long term basis.

(iv) Afforestation, cultivation and commercial plantation.

(v) Other miscellaneous uses like way-leave facility, pisciculture, leasing/licensing to staff welfare organisations/ schools.

(vi) Putting some of its land/air space for commercial use wherever such a potential exists.

In addition, Railways have planned to plant `Jatropha Curcas`(Ratanjot) on a large scale along the track as well as elsewhere.Railway has also entered into Memorandum of Understanding with Indian Oil Corporation for plantation of Jatropha Curcas on 500 hectare of land and production of bio-diesel as a pilot project.

(d) Earnings from the land utilisation during the last three years is as under:

Figures in Rs. (crore)

Year	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-2002
Rs. (in Crores)	30.37	94.49	223.53##

Includes arrears of Rs.131 crore realised from oil companies as land lease rentals.